



PSY-ZING UP 2012'S HEADLINERS

FIND OUT WHETHER YOUR TOP 5 POP CULTURE MOMENTS
OF THE LAST YEAR MATCH THAT OF METRO'S PAGE 11

REGINA

metro

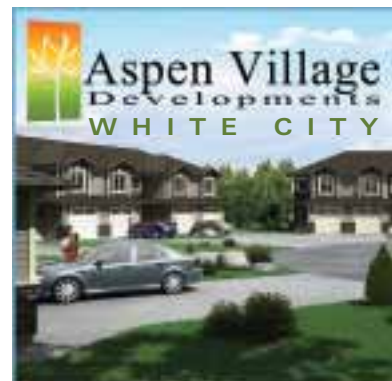
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2013 is the Queen City's year to shine

Spotlight. The country's eyes will be on Regina this year as the city prepares to host major national events



**JEFF
MACKEY**

jeff.mackey@metronews.ca

The year 2013 could prove to be a watershed year for the Queen City. Regina will be hosting two major national events over the next 12 months: The 101st Grey Cup and the 2013 Juno Awards.

"It gives us a chance to showcase our city, who we are as a people and how well we can put on these great events," Mayor Michael Foug-

ere said in a year-end interview. "We expect the entire city to be behind the Junos and the Grey Cup."

Hosting the 2013 Grey Cup is an exciting opportunity for what is arguably the fiercest — and loudest — football community in Canada. The big game will be stretched into a four-day festival from Nov. 20 to 24 in which tailgating, football and Rider Pride will no doubt be difficult to ignore on the streets of Regina.

Regina hasn't hosted the Grey Cup since 2003. Already, hotels rooms across the city are difficult to find for the big weekend.

For the more artsy crowd, the 2013 Juno Awards will be held on April 21 at the Brandt Centre. The Canadian music

awards show may be only one night, but the event has turned into a weeklong extravaganza starting on April 15 that will bring great Canadian musicians and stars to the Prairies.

Highlights of the festivities will include a two-day music festival, a chance for fans to meet their favourite stars, a songwriting circle and, of course, the star-studded awards show.

Along with all of these national events, Regina will still be hosting beloved annual events such as the Regina Folk Festival, the Mosaic Festival, the Queen City Ex and Agribition.



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New Year's tragedy

A stampede after a fireworks display in Ivory Coast leaves 61 dead and more than 200 injured PAGE 7

Dinner in a cinch

Broccoli pasta is easy to prepare and budget-friendly PAGE 14



Back to work

Your holiday of sleeping in till noon and reading trashy novels is over — here are some coping strategies PAGE 15

Middle-earth is yours to explore

A visit to New Zealand is a must for any Tolkien devotee PAGE 12



IN WITH THE NEW

Lt.-Gov. Vaughn Solomon Schofield kept tradition alive on Tuesday at the Lieutenant Governor's New Year's Day Levee in Regina. Schofield met with the public at Government House to ring in the New Year in style, as has been the tradition since 1884. JEFF MACKEY/METRO



The Regina Police Service received 156 calls for service on New Year's Eve and organized a unit to help with crowd control at bars and parties.

JEFF MACKEY/METRO

Police investigate suspicious death

Busy night for cops. 2012 ended in violence with a suspicious death, several alcohol-related incidents



JEFF
MACKEY
jeff.mackey@metronews.ca

While most Reginans were

celebrating the beginning of 2013 on Monday, the Regina Police Service rang in the New Year with a relatively busy day of policing.

Police were called to the 1100 Block of Robinson St. around midnight on Dec. 31 for a report of a possible deceased male. The male was transported to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

The death has been

By the numbers

156

Throughout New Year's Eve police received 156 calls for service.

deemed suspicious and the major crimes unit, as well as the office of the coroner are investigating the death.

The suspicious death was not all police were dealing with on Monday; a unit was assigned to crowd control at bars throughout the city and to respond to any other calls.

Throughout New Year's Eve police received 156 calls for service. Several of these calls related to alcohol and New Year's Eve festivities, there were no major calls for service in the evening, however.

Unanimous decision. Saskatchewan union loses court fight in battle with Wal-Mart over certification

The United Food and Commercial Workers have lost a battle in their long and ongoing fight to unionize at a Wal-Mart in Weyburn, Sask.

On Monday, the three judges of the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal unanimously decided to dismiss the union's

appeal regarding decisions by the Saskatchewan Labour Board on the union's accusations of unfair labour practices.

At the same time, the high court upheld a cross-appeal by Wal-Mart, restoring the labour board's ruling in its entirety.

That means that an application to decertify the union will proceed and votes cast by store employees will be counted.

The union first applied for certification in 2004. The application was granted in 2008 but was overturned in Court of

Queen's Bench the following year.

In 2010, the appeal court upheld the certification.

That same year, a decertification vote was held but the votes were not counted pending the outcome of legal challenges. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Rescue

Two young boys fall through ice on Regina creek

Two young boys had to be rescued after falling through the ice on a creek in Regina.

The mother of one of the boys was nearby and was able to get them out of the freezing, metre-deep water.

Jay O'Connor with the Regina Fire Department says all three were taken to hospital as a precaution.

The boys were eight and nine years old.

O'Connor says it's a reminder that despite a recent cold snap, it's still best to stay off the ice.

O'Connor says that until recently it hasn't been that cold in Saskatchewan this winter.

Creeks are less likely to be frozen too, as the water is always running below it, meaning it will take longer to freeze compared to a lake or river.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/CJME

New Year's death

First homicide in Saskatoon in 2013

Police are investigating Saskatoon's first homicide of 2013.

Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) received a call about an injured man at 12:28 a.m. on New Year's Day.

Police along with MD ambulance responded to a home in the 100 Block of Avenue O South and upon arrival they found a 28-year-old man had been stabbed.

He was taken to Royal University Hospital where he died as a result of his injuries.

The SPS's Major Crime Investigators along with Forensic Identification Section have been called out to investigate. No arrests have been made at this time. **METRO**

Near Grandora, Sask.

House fire causes \$300,000 damage

A Saskatchewan family is left without a home after a New Year's Day house fire.

At approximately 3:50 p.m. Tuesday Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services dispatched four trucks to a fire south of Highway 14 near Grandora — about 25 kilometres west of Saskatoon.

The crews could see heavy smoke from many kilometres away as they approached the scene.

METRO

Age test to decide if suspected rapist can face murder charge

India. Prosecutors seek death penalty for five other suspects held in rape and murder case

A bone test is being conducted to confirm the age of a young suspect in custody in the fatal assault and gang rape of a woman on a bus in India's capital, while prosecutors will seek the death penalty for five other men arrested with him, police said Tuesday.

The six will be formally charged Thursday on accusations that they kidnapped, gang-raped and murdered the 23-year-old woman in New Delhi on Dec. 16, a police spokesman said.

Outraged Indians have been demanding the death penalty for the six men, holding demonstrations almost every day. Murder is punishable by death and rape by life imprisonment. But those

Too often ignored

Activists hope the assault will shatter taboos and make authorities take such cases more seriously.

- Police often refuse to hear complaints and even accuse victims of inviting male attention.
- Families also dissuade victims from coming forward in the belief that it will ruin their reputations.

below 18 years of age cannot be prosecuted for murder.

Another officer said a bone test is being conducted to determine if one suspect is indeed a juvenile. If the test determines he is 18 years or older, he will be treated as an adult, said the officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The gang rape and killing of a student has set off an impassioned debate about what India needs to do to prevent another tragedy. DAR YASIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police ID some victims in B.C.-bound bus crash



The crash site near Deadman Pass. OREGON STATE POLICE HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Investigators in Oregon are trying to piece together the final moments before a Vancouver-bound tour bus carrying 48 people careened down a steep hillside, ejecting some passengers and killing nine.

Police said Monday they weren't sure how fast the bus was travelling on a partly icy highway in a rural mountain pass east of Pendleton, Ore.

Oregon State Police identified one of the victims as a 57-year-old Washington man. Authorities said Dale William Osborn was killed in Sunday's crash and his wife Sue Osborn remained hospitalized.

His daughter, Jennifer Sherman, said she was told her father

was hit in the head by a rock while her mother was thrown into a river bed.

A list of injured released by police named seven Canadian residents, including the driver, identified as 54-year-old Haeng Kyu Hwang of Vancouver.

State Police Lt. Gregg Hastings said it could take a month or more to determine whether the driver will face any charges.

Police said they were working with the Korean Consulate to identify other victims. They confirmed 39 people were transported for treatment of injuries and at least 14 of them remained in hospital.

The bus was travelling westbound in the left lane when it

hit a concrete barrier, veered across both westbound lanes and went through the guardrail before plunging about 60 metres down the embankment, Hastings said. The National Transportation Safety Board said the bus rolled at least once.

When the tour bus came to a rest, terrified passengers looked for their loved ones.

"Some mothers screamed to find their son or daughter," said Jaemin Seo, a 23-year-old Korean student studying in Vancouver.

Seo said he was awakened by screaming and was ejected from a broken window as the bus careened down the hill. He

suffered a broken ankle and a gash in his arm.

The crash occurred near a spot called Deadman Pass, at the top of a steep, 11-kilometre descent from the Blue Mountains.

Rescuers faced the challenge of bringing survivors up a steep cliff, Pendleton Fire Chief Gary Woodson said. They descended the hill and used ropes and baskets to help retrieve people from the wreckage in freezing weather.

Some survivors were carried on backboards by six or eight rescuers. Others were hoisted in baskets, and an all-terrain vehicle arrived toward the end. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York City

Woman killed by subway train on New Year's Day

New York City police say a young woman stumbling around on a subway platform not far from Times Square fell onto the tracks and was killed by a train.

The accident happened before dawn on New Year's Day at a station just one stop from where revellers gather in Times Square to celebrate at midnight. Police say the victim was in her 20s.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Full recovery expected

Hillary Clinton on blood thinners for clot in her head

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton continues to recover in a New York hospital where she's being treated for a blood clot in her head.

Her doctors say blood thinners are being used to dissolve the clot and are confident she will make a full recovery. Clinton didn't suffer a stroke or neurological damage from the clot that formed after she suffered a concussion



Secretary of State Hillary Clinton
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

during a fainting spell at her home, doctors said in a

statement Monday.

Clinton, 65, was admitted to New York-Presbyterian Hospital on Sunday when the clot turned up on a follow-up exam on the concussion, Clinton spokesman Phillipe Reines said.

Clinton returned to the U.S. from a trip to Europe, then fell ill with a stomach virus in early December that left her severely dehydrated.

Her condition worsened when she fainted, fell and suffered a concussion while at home alone in mid-December as she recovered from the virus.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Molten money

Bank hushes talk of melting bills

Disclosing details of behind-the-scenes discussions about tales of melting banknotes could endanger national security or international relations, says Canada's central bank.

In response to a formal request from The Canadian Press, the Bank of Canada released 134 pages of internal records — almost completely blanked out — concerning allegations its new polymer bills melted in the scorching summer sun.

The bank began issuing

\$100 polymer banknotes in late 2011, saying they were harder to counterfeit than paper notes and would last much longer.

Unconfirmed reports of cooked currency emerged in July when a Kelowna, B.C., bank teller said she had heard of cases in which several bills had melted together inside a car.

Soon after, a photo of scorched \$100 bills surfaced in Ontario — purportedly after they were stored in a metal can next to a baseboard heater.

The bank swiftly denied that its new bills could be affected by heat in these ways.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Northern West Bank. Attempt to nab jihadists sets off hours of violence

An arrest raid by undercover Israeli soldiers disguised as vegetable vendors ignited rare clashes in the northern West Bank on Tuesday, residents said, leaving at least eight Palestinians wounded.

Israeli army raids into Palestinian areas to seize activists and militants are fairly common. The raids are normally co-ordinated with Palestinian security forces, and suspects are usually apprehended without violence.

The clashes began early Tuesday after Israeli forces disguised as merchants in a vegetable truck arrested one man. Regular army forces then entered the town, prompting youths to hurl rocks to try to prevent more arrests.

Israeli forces fired tear gas, rubber bullets and live ammunition as youths set tires and bins on fire to block the passage of military vehicles. In several hours of clashes, dozens of masked youths hid behind makeshift barriers, hurling rocks and firebombs at soldiers.

Faris Bisharat, a resident of Tamoun, said 10 men were wounded, some by live fire. Bisharat said the wanted men belong to Islamic Jihad, a violent group sworn to Israel's destruction. It



Palestinian protesters react to tear gas shot by Israeli soldiers.
NASSER ISHTAYEH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

wasn't clear how many men Israeli forces sought to arrest. There were no immediate details on how seriously the eight were hurt.

The Israeli military said it arrested a "terrorist affiliated with the Islamic Jihad terror group." It said two soldiers were injured during the raid.

The fighting, which broke out in several parts of the town of some 8,000 people, was a rare, angry response. It was also unusual for Israeli forces to use live fire toward Palestinian demonstrators. Israel says it uses live fire only in extremely dangerous situations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syria. Rebel forces beef up attacks on airports around Aleppo province

Clashes between government troops and rebels on Tuesday forced the international airport in Aleppo to stop all flights in and out of Syria's largest city, while fierce battles also raged in the suburbs of the capital Damascus.

The rebels have been making inroad in the civil war recently, capturing a string of military bases and posing a stiff challenge to the regime in Syria's two major cities — Damascus

and Aleppo.

The opposition trying to overthrow authoritarian President Bashar Assad has been fighting for control of Aleppo since the summer, and they have captured large swathes of territory in Aleppo province west and north of the city up to the Turkish border.

In the past few weeks, rebels have stepped up their attacks on airports around Aleppo province.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Egypt

TV host under fire for presidential parody

Egyptian prosecutors launched an investigation on Tuesday against a popular television satirist for allegedly insulting the president in the latest case raised by Islamist lawyers against outspoken media personalities.

Lawyer Ramadan Abdel-

Hamid al-Oqsori charged that TV host Bassem Youssef insulted President Mohammed Morsi by putting the Islamist leader's image on a pillow and parodying his speeches.

The case against Youssef comes as opposition media and independent journalists are growing increasingly worried about press freedoms under a new constitution widely supported by Morsi and his Islamist allies.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A Pakistani driver who survived an attack on a van that was targeted by gunmen in Swabi lies at the Lady Reading Hospital after being admitted for treatment, Tuesday, in Peshawar, Pakistan. Gunmen killed five female teachers and two other people on Tuesday in the ambush. MOHAMMAD SAJJAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Deadly shooting targets aid workers

Attack on women.
Motive for the killing
could be linked to
anti-polio campaigns,
says group's director

Gunmen on motorcycles sprayed a van carrying employees from a community centre with bullets Tuesday, killing five female teachers and two aid workers, but sparing a child they took out of the vehicle before opening fire.

The director of the group that the seven worked for says he suspects it may have

been the latest in a series of attacks targeting anti-polio efforts in Pakistan. Some militants oppose the vaccination campaigns, accusing health workers of acting as spies for the U.S. and alleging the vaccine is intended to make Muslim children sterile.

Last month, nine people working on an anti-polio vaccination campaign were shot and killed. Four of those shootings were in the northwest, where Tuesday's attack took place.

The attack was another reminder of the risks to women educators and aid workers from Islamic mil-

itants who oppose their work. It was in the same conservative province where militants shot and seriously wounded 15-year-old Malala Yousufzai, an outspoken young activist for girls' education, in October.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the latest shootings.

The teachers and health workers — one man and one woman — were killed in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province on their way home from a community centre in the town of Swabi, where they were employed at a medical clinic and primary school. Their driver was also

injured.

The injured driver in Swabi told investigators that the gunmen stopped the vehicle and removed a boy — the son of one of the women — before indiscriminately opening fire, said police officer Fazal Malik. The woman's husband rushed to the scene after receiving a phone call alerting him to the shooting.

Militants in the province have blown up schools and killed female educators. They have also kidnapped and killed aid workers, viewing them as promoting a foreign, liberal agenda.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Andre Pshenichnikov
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Ex-sergeant detained in Egypt

Egyptian security officials say a former sergeant in the Israeli army has been ordered detained for 15 days for investigation into his illegal entry from Israel into the Sinai Peninsula.

The authorities say the 24-year-old unarmed Israeli has been in custody since Friday. They announced the arrest

Monday.

The officials said Tuesday he is under investigation in the Red Sea resort town of Sharm el-Sheikh for allegedly trying to reach the Gaza Strip through Sinai. They have identified him as Andrew Yaacoub Cheteko.

Known in Israel as Andre Pshenichnikov, the Jewish im-

migrant from Tajikistan made headlines last year when he announced he wanted to move to a West Bank refugee camp in solidarity with Palestinians there.

The security officials spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

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Speech hints at change in North Korea

New Year's message.

No indication whether leader Kim Jong Un plans to introduce economic reforms or allow free enterprise

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on Tuesday called for improving the economy and living standards of his impoverished nation with the same urgency that scientists showed in testing a long-range rocket recently.

Kim's first New Year's speech, delivered on state TV, was peppered with rhetoric, with calls for boosting the military's capabilities and making the science and technology sector world class. But other passages were also an acknowledgement of the poor state of the economy.

The speech itself was a



Fireworks explode over Kim Il Sung Square Tuesday in celebration of the new year in Pyongyang, North Korea. KYODO NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

signal that Kim will continue with a leadership style more in line with his gregarious grandfather, national founder Kim Il Sung who routinely addressed his people on New Year's Day, than with his father, Kim Jong Il, who avoided making public speeches.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Winds of change

Kim's speech avoided harsh criticism of the United States. North Korea has used past New Year's editorials to accuse the U.S. of plotting war.

- In other signs of changes — at least superficial — North Korea also had its first grand New Year's Eve celebration, with residents of the capital treated to fireworks at midnight.

- In Pyongyang, residents danced in the snow to celebrate the end of a big year for North Korea, including the 100th anniversary of the birth of Kim Il Sung and the first year of Kim Jong Un's leadership. Fireworks lit up the sky and people stood in fur-lined parkas, taking photos and laughing and dancing with each other in plazas.

French tradition

Young revellers set 1,193 parked cars ablaze

Hundreds of empty, parked cars go up in flames in France each New Year's Eve, set afire by young revellers, a much-lamented tradition that remained intact this year with 1,193 vehicles burned, Interior Minister Manuel Valls said Tuesday.

His announcement was the first time in three years that such figures have been released. The conservative government of former president Nicolas Sarkozy had decided to stop publishing them in a bid to reduce the crime — and not play into the hands of car-torching youths who try to outdo each other.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cancer surgery

Venezuelans get shifting signals about Chavez

Supporters and opponents of President Hugo Chavez alike nervously welcomed the new year Tuesday, left on edge by shifting signals from the government about the Venezuelan leader's health three weeks after cancer surgery in Cuba.

Chavez has not been seen or heard from since the Dec. 11 operation, and officials have reported a series of ups and downs in his recovery — the most recent, late Sunday, announcing a respiratory infection had put the president in a "delicate" state.

Venezuelans rang in 2013 as usual with fireworks raining down all over the capital of Caracas. But some of Chavez's support-



Italians dive into the new year

Italy's Maurizio Palmulli, known as Mister OK, dives into the Tiber River from the 18-metre-high Cavour Bridge in Rome, Tuesday, to celebrate the new year. He was among a handful of people to take part in the traditional Jan. 1 Tiber dive. ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Feud. Bullets help pinpoint real Hatfield-McCoy battle

The Hatfield clan New Year's attack on Randolph McCoy's cabin marked a turning point in America's most famous feud — the homestead was set ablaze, and two McCoys were gunned down.

Artifacts recently unearthed appear to pinpoint the location of the 1888 ambush in the woods of Pike County in Kentucky. Excavators found bullets believed to have been fired by the McCoys in self-defence, along with fragments of windows and ceramic from

the family's cabin.

The property is owned by Bob Scott, a Hatfield descendant who has suspected for years that the hilly land was the site of the brutal attack.

Although the artifacts were uncovered a few months ago, the discoveries weren't announced until Monday. The new National Geographic Channel series, called Diggers, premieres Tuesday. The episode detailing the McCoy homestead discovery airs on Jan. 29. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hadfield. New Year's message out of this world

Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield is sending his New Year greetings from space.

Hadfield took a moment Monday on the International Space Station to send a message back to Earth in both English and French.

"It is a tremendous privilege to be one of the new guys on board the International Space Station," he said.

"I want to wish everybody a very happy new year ... 2013 really promises to be a productive one for all of us on

board."

Hadfield, 53, arrived a few days before Christmas and is scheduled to stay until May. He will take over command of the station in March.

Hadfield has been in regular communication with his 37,000-plus Twitter followers since his voyage began.

On New Year's Eve, he posted photographs of Canada as seen from above, including some of Quebec City, Prince Edward Island and the Rockies. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alaska

No oil spill seen near grounded drilling rig

A U.S. Coast Guard flight over a Shell drilling rig that ran aground in a storm off a small Alaskan island found no signs of a fuel spill, officials said Tuesday, but they had to wait until daylight to better assess its impact on the environment.

The Kulluk grounded Monday night on rocks off Sitkalidak Island, an uninhabited island in the Gulf of Alaska.

The Kulluk was being towed by two vessels while trying to escape the worst of the storm, but the drill ship was separated offshore from one of the vessels and grounding was inevitable.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hong Kong

Protesters want Beijing-backed leader to resign

Tens of thousands of people marched in Hong Kong on the first day of 2013 to call for the city's Beijing-backed leader to step down over allegations he was untruthful about illegal renovations at his mansion and to press for full democracy.

Police said 26,000 people joined the march at its peak Tuesday while organizers said 130,000 took part.

In the evening, about 2,500 members of a small radical group briefly blocked several roads.

In a sign of the widening political divisions in the semiautonomous region 15 years after Britain handed control back to China, thousands of other Hong Kongers joined a rival



Anti-government protesters block the main road in downtown Hong Kong on New Year's Day to call for the resignation of Hong Kong Chief Executive Leung Chunying. KIN CHEUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

march held in support of Leung on the same day by pro-government groups. Organizers of that march said 60,000 people took part while police put the number at 8,000.

Leung won the job of Hong Kong's leader, known as the chief executive, after a scandal over a huge, illegal basement brought down his rival. But illegal structures were later also discovered at Leung's house. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stampede after fireworks kills 61

New Year's tragedy.
Most of those killed in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, were children and teens

A crowd stampeded after leaving a New Year's Eve fireworks show early Tuesday in Ivory Coast's main city, killing 61 people — many of them children and teenagers — and injuring more than 200, rescue workers said.

Thousands had gathered at the Felix Houphouët Boigny Stadium in Abidjan's Plateau district to see the fireworks. It was only the second New Year's Eve fireworks display since peace returned to this West

African nation after a bloody upheaval over presidential elections put the nation on the brink of civil war and turned this city into a battle zone.

With 2013 showing greater promise, people were in the mood to celebrate on New Year's Eve. Families brought children and they watched the rockets burst in the nighttime sky. But only an hour into the new year, as the crowds poured onto the Boulevard de la République after the show, something caused a stampede, said Col. Issa Sako of the fire department rescue team. How so many deaths occurred on the broad boulevard and how the tragedy started is likely to be the subject of an investigation.

Many of the younger ones

Missing children

"I have just seen all the bodies, but I cannot find my son ... I don't know what to do."

Mamadou Sanogo, who was searching for his nine-year-old son, Sayed, at the morgue

in the crowd went down, trampled underfoot. Most of those killed were between 8 and 15 years old.

"The flood of people leaving the stadium became a stampede which led to the deaths of more than 60 and injured more than 200," Sako told Ivory Coast state TV.

Desperate parents went to the city morgue, the hospital

and the stadium to try to find missing children.

State TV showed a woman sobbing in the back of an ambulance; another was bent over on the side of the street, apparently in pain; and another, barely conscious and wearing only a bra on her upper body, was hoisted by rescuers. There were also scenes of small children being treated in a hospital. One boy grimaced in pain and a girl with coloured braids in her hair lay under a blanket with one hand bandaged. The death toll could rise, officials said.

The government organized the fireworks to celebrate Ivory Coast's peace, after several months of political violence in early 2011 following disputed elections. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



An Ivory Coast soldier stands next to the belongings of people involved in a deadly stampede in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. At least 61 people were killed following a New Year's Eve fireworks display. EMANUEL EKRA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Executive pay. Top CEOs in Canada earn average of \$7.7M, research shows

By the end of the lunch hour on Jan. 2, the highest paid chief executive officers in Canada will have earned as much as the average Canadian makes all year, a new survey of CEO pay shows.

The top 100 CEOs in Canada earned \$7.7 million on average in 2011, the latest data collected by an Ottawa-based think tank found.

In comparison, the average industrial wage was \$45,488, the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives notes.

This is the seventh year the policy group has prepared a database of executive pay based on publicly available documents.

It began doing so in 2005 to help focus public debate on the growing gap between rich and poor, said Hugh Mackenzie, an economist and research associate with the think tank.

Total executive compensation includes base salary, bonus, stocks and stock options, and the value of things like pension and dental plans, use of a corporate jet and other benefits.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Leaders of the pack



Frank Stronach, honorary chair of Magna International Inc.

GETTY IMAGES FILE

- Frank Stronach, honorary chair of Magna International Inc., led the CEO pay parade, earning \$40 million in 2011.
- Michael Pearson, head of Montreal-based Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc., came in second with a pay packet of \$36.3 million, most of it in shares. In third place was Robert Quartermain, head of Vancouver-based gold exploration firm Pretium Resources Inc., at \$16.9 million.

House GOP brinkmanship threatens fiscal cliff deal

Washington, D.C. Rare New Year's Day session comes after Senate OKs compromise bill

Manoeuvred into a political corner, House Republicans abandoned demands for changes in emergency legislation to prevent widespread tax increases and painful across-the-board spending cuts and cleared the way for a final, climactic New Year's night vote.

The decision capped a day of intense political calculations for conservatives who control the House. They had to weigh their desire to cut spending against the fear that the Senate would refuse to consider any changes they made in the so-called fiscal cliff bill, sending it into limbo and saddling Republicans with the blame for a whopping middle class tax increase.

Adding to the GOP discomfort, one Senate Democratic leadership aide said Majority Leader Harry Reid would "absolutely not take up the bill"



Sen. John Barrasso, left, R-Wyo., talks with Sen. Brian Schatz, D-Hawaii, holding up his watch, after a vote on the fiscal cliff Tuesday on Capitol Hill. The Senate passed legislation early New Year's Day to neutralize a combination of across-the-board tax increases and spending cuts that kicked in at midnight.

ALEX BRANDON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

if the House changed it. The aide spoke on condition of anonymity, citing a requirement to keep internal deliberations private.

The legislation cleared the

Senate hours earlier on a lop-sided pre-dawn vote of 89-8. Administration officials met at the White House to monitor its progress.

"I do not support the bill.

Online

For the latest updates, visit metronews.ca



We are looking, though, for the best path forward," House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, R-Va., declared after one meeting of the party's rank-and-file.

Despite Cantor's remarks, Speaker John Boehner took no public position on the bill as he sought to negotiate a conclusion to the final crisis of a two-year term full of them.

It wasn't the first time that the Tea Party-infused House Republican majority has rebelled against the party establishment since the GOP took control of the chamber 24 months ago. But with the two-year term set to end Thursday at noon, it was likely the last.

Economists have warned that without action by Congress, the tax increases and spending cuts that technically took effect with the turn of the new year at midnight could send the economy into recession. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paris

Armed thieves rob Apple flagship

Masked and armed thieves used the New Year's Eve fête to rob the flagship Apple store in Paris.

The French press reported that up to about \$1.3 million in goods were stolen at the store behind the Paris Opera house, a figure police would not immediately confirm. The theft occurred about 9 p.m. Monday, while police were deployed around the famed Champs-Élysées Avenue where revellers traditionally gather on New Year's Eve. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Moscow

Good luck buying a brew in Russia

A big question in Russia in 2013 may be "How do I get a beer around here?"

Under a law that took effect on New Year's Day, selling beer at the kiosks that mushroomed along sidewalks and roadsides after the collapse of the Soviet Union has been banned. In a measure meant to address Russia's high rate of problem drinking, beer now can be purchased only at restaurants, cafés and stores of at least 50 square metres (about 500 square feet).

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India. Ambitious program to slash welfare fraud draws fire

By the numbers

440M

India has 440 million people living below the poverty line.

India will send billions of dollars in social welfare money directly to its poor under a new program inaugurated Tuesday, aiming to cut out the middlemen blamed for the massive fraud that plagues the system.

Previously officials only handed out cash to the poor after taking a cut — if they didn't keep all of it for themselves — and were known to enrol fake recipients or register unqualified people. The new program would see welfare money directly deposited into recipients' bank accounts and require them to prove their identity with biometric data, such as fingerprints or retina scans.

Finance Minister P. Chidambaram has described the ven-

ture as "nothing less than magical," but critics accuse the government of hastily pushing through a complex program in a country where millions don't have access to electricity or paved roads, let alone neighbourhood banks.

The program is loosely based on Brazil's widely praised Bolsa Familia program, which has helped lift more than 19 million people out of poverty since 2003. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



In this March 2012 photo, an impoverished woman places her finger on a biometric card reader before buying her quota of subsidized rice in India's eastern state of Orissa. India will send billions of dollars in social welfare money directly to its poor under a new program inaugurated Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

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YOLO, SO IT'S TIME TO RETIRE THESE CLICHÉS



JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/voices/
just-saying

How many times over the past year have you heard the term "double down"?

If you answered, "Too many," you probably feel much the same way about other misused and

abused words and phrases of 2012, including, but not restricted to: Fiscal cliff, trending, passion, spoiler alert, bucket list, superfood and the now unavoidable YOLO (you only live once).

These and others turned up on this year's Lake Superior State University's 2013 List of Banned Words. When you're only a minor seat of higher learning in the snowbelt — and not Harvard — you need to come up with a shtick to get noticed.

An aptitude for platitudes

It's like you belong to a club, and the only requirement for membership is that you have to use the trendy word before your mother texts it to her BFF.

Back in 1975, some PR genius at LSSU came up with the idea of an annual list of words that need to be banned. Every year, the university publishes a selection of words and phrases compiled from the submissions of grumpy wordsmiths across North America, and every year, the news services cover it as if it's actually news. Of course, "wordsmith" made the list one year, but, like most of the other words on the list, people just keep on using them ... until they don't.

The list is more important now than ever as the alarming proliferation of bloggers who feed off other bloggers has led to the near-complete eradication of original thought, as everyone doubles down on the trending slang.

It's like you belong to a club, and the only requirement for membership is that you have to use the trendy word before your mother texts it to her BFF (previously banned abbreviation for best friend forever). If you continue to use it after that, you earn the scorn of the haters, but I'm sure everyone else thinks you're terribly trending.

The problem with "trending," according to its nominators, is that it's not up to the task: Trending which way? Up? Down? Out?

The problem with the fiscal cliff is obvious. Talk about a lazy reference to the worst financial crisis of the century to date. But instead of working hard to understand it, all of us lemmings prefer to roll it up and package it in a neat phrase that we can take with us as we go over it.

"Double down" is particularly odious. It allows you to pretend you're a real riverboat gambler, comfortable with high-risk blackjack strategies, when you don't know jack about doubling down or hitting me up or whatever.

One of my faves this year is "passion," as in "That's my passion," justifying some inane or inherently dangerous practice you're currently enthusiastic about. "Passion" goes well with "fruit" and "Easter," but otherwise should be avoided as overkill.

Just because YOLO doesn't mean you should give in to your passion for clichés.

Just sayin'.



Oh yeah? Trend this: Psy, left, performs in Times Square during New Year's Eve celebrations in New York City. The South Korean rapper was third in Google's 12th annual ranking of trending searches for 2012.

CHARLES SYKES/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Moscow on the Mediterranean



ODED BALILTY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Distinct society

From Russia with love of culture

The children of immigrants from the former Soviet Union attend a ballet class in Lod, central Israel. The Soviet state crumbled 20 years ago, and in the aftermath, more than one million of its citizens took advantage of Jewish roots to emigrate to Israel. Some prominent ballet dancers were among them, forming ballet schools and continuing a dance culture highly regarded in their mother country.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Growing influence

3rd

Israel has the world's third-largest Russian-speaking community outside of the former Soviet Union, after the U.S. and Germany. Today, Russian-speaking émigrés and their children occupy virtually every corner of Israeli society, from academia and technology to the military and politics. Every fourth employee in Israel's flourishing high-tech industry is a Russian-speaking immigrant, as is every other engineer. The world's second-ranked chess master, Belarus-born Boris Gelfand, lives in Israel, and about one-quarter of Israel's Olympic coaches grew up in the former Soviet Union.

Kosher clash



ODED BALILTY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An employee of the Mizra pork-processing plant poses with a pig's head in a refrigerated warehouse in Kibbutz Mizra, northern Israel. The Russian immigrant community has increased demand for pork in the country, a non-kosher food rarely eaten by Israeli Jews.

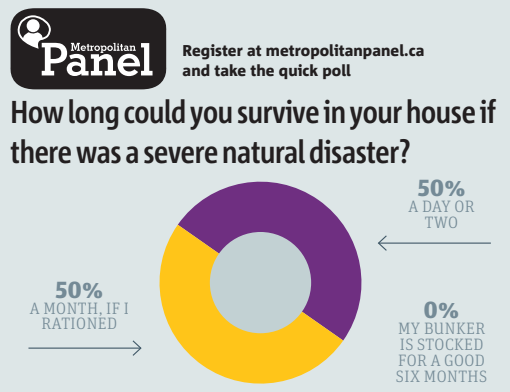
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Old country and new

Russian power on the rise

By virtue of their sheer numbers in a country of eight million people, the Russian population has transformed Israel. In parts of the country, it's hard to find a single Hebrew sign in a sea of Cyrillic. Shopkeepers address customers in Russian and stores are amply stocked with red caviar and vodka. Russian pop beats thump at bars, and in some homes, people are as likely to be hunched over a chessboard as they are a computer keyboard.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Twitter

@JoshuaZorn_SKWX: Light New Year's Day snowfall happening right now in #YQR

@Festickle75: I met an old man ystrdy. He raised a family & bought a house & retired nicely after a career as a security guard. Imagine that today #skpoli

@HarlanKenndy: I JUST NOTICED ITS TWENTY THIRTEEN Awww

@Mckinno: It's ridiculously nice out, if you haven't been outside today I highly recommend that you do so.

@BJMuntain: Had so much planned for today — then woke at 2 pm. Oops. Well, I resolved to get more sleep this year. Guess I'm starting off right!



DVD review



Looper

Director. Rian Johnson

Stars. Joseph Gordon-Levitt,
Emily Blunt

Looper is a real head flip of a time trip, definitely not your usual ray gun routine, which is why it was chosen as the gala opener for this year's TIFF.

Skillfully bending genres since he first smashed with Brick in 2005, Rian Johnson puts that film's star, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, into an identity crisis sci-fi thriller set in the Kansas of 2044. JGL plays Joe, a "looper" (hit man) working for innovative mobsters from the year 2074, who use a time machine to send their victims back three decades for untraceable bullets and burning. Fast cash is just a shot away for ice-cool Joe and his blunderbuss – until a new crime kingpin decides to "close the loop" and the mirror threatens.

Bruce Willis and Emily Blunt co-star in this future shocker that is smarter than most, at least until the novelty wears thin.

Extras include deleted scenes, making-of featurettes and feature commentary by Rian Johnson, Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Emily Blunt.

PETER HOWELL



Horror icon Leatherface returns to hunt unsuspecting teenagers in the latest installment of The Texas Chainsaw Massacre series, Texas Chainsaw 3D. HANDOUT

Carving out a killer franchise — in 3D

Horror. The Texas Chainsaw Massacre's Leatherface has been terrifying audiences for more than 30 years

Two far-flung events inspired director Tobe Hooper to write The Texas Chainsaw Massacre, the down-and-dirty 1974 indie film that spawned sequels, prequels and this weekend's splashy 3D remake — the imaginatively titled Texas Chainsaw 3D.

In November 1957, police raided the home of Plainfield, Wis., farmer Ed Gein, uncovering gruesome evidence that would lead to charges of murder and body

snatching.

After two trials, he spent the rest of his life in a mental facility, but his story would go on to inspire three characters—Norman Bates from Psycho, Buffalo Bill from The Silence of the Lambs and one other that would serve as the basis for six films.

Gunnar Hansen, who played Leatherface in Texas Chainsaw Massacre, says Hooper and co-writer Kim Henkel based the character of the hooded chainsaw killer on Gein.

"When they set out to write this movie," he said, "they decided to have a family of killers who had some of the characteristics of Gein: the skin masks, the furniture made from bones, the possibility of cannibalism."

Hooper adds the story was also partially inspired by "the massacres and atrocities in the Vietnam War" and a display of chainsaws in the hardware section of a crowded Montgomery Ward's department store.

"The idea popped," he remembered. "I said, 'Ooh, I know how I could get out of this place fast — if I just start one of these things up and make that sound.'"

That nerve-jangling noise — the revving of a chainsaw — has been the soundtrack of terror ever since. The original is an atmospheric gem, a white-knuckle movie that made Leatherface the first icon of modern horror.

The apron-wearing cannibal has appeared in five more films — most of which don't

veer too far from the original plot line of unsuspecting kids falling prey to a family of demented, cannibalistic inbreds.

There's The Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2, starring Dennis Hopper, Leatherface: TCM III, TCM: The Next Generation (starring the then-unknown Matthew McConaughey and Renée Zellweger), 2003's The Texas Chainsaw Massacre, TCM: The Beginning and the new 3D version.

Leatherface's scares don't always happen on screen, however. At the Kingsway Theatre in Toronto, the flick inspired audience participation when someone dressed in a butcher's outfit ran down the aisle brandishing a real, revving chainsaw.

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Our celeb wishes and Twitter dreams for 2013



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Here's some New Year's resolutions we wish the stars would aim for:

- **Katy Perry:** "I will stop dating bad boys with stringy black hair."
- **Lindsay Lohan:** "I will try to make my probation officer's 2013 as painless as possible."
- **Prince Harry:** "I will try to have more fun in 2013."
- **Psy:** "I will not make a 'serious' album. Not yet, at least."
- **Kristin Stewart:** "I will smile."
- **Rihanna:** "I will stop dating Chris Brown once and for all."

Twitter hopes

These stars left Twitter — some for good reasons, some for bad — in 2012. Here's some Twitter accounts we wish would come back in 2013:

@adele

The singer left Twitter after receiving nasty death threats about her newborn son from Twitter trolls. It would be great for her to come back so we can show her that humanity isn't awful.

@KanyeWest

"BE BACK SOON" was the last thing posted on the singer's epic Twitter feed, which gave us such gems as "I just threw some kazoo on this b-tch" and "Sometimes I get emotional over fonts." Wherefore art thou, Kanye?

@CharlieSheen

After he accidentally tweeted his phone number in an attempt to contact Justin Bieber (hahahahaha), Sheen deleted his Twitter account. Come and remind us what all the fuss was about.

Entertainment. From "Hey, sexy lady" to saying goodbye to an icon, Metro looks back at some of the year's biggest moments.

Top 5

- 1 Whitney Houston dies.
- 2 Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes divorce.
- 3 Kristen Stewart cheats on Robert Pattinson.
- 4 PSY takes over the world with Gangnam Style.
- 5 The royals are having a baby.

• "Whitney Houston's death in February was a tragic event that symbolically set the tone for a year where the old guard in soul and R&B music gave way to a younger generation, as hip-hop kids like Frank Ocean, Miguel and The Weeknd basically reinvented the genre in 2012." **PAT HEALY**

• "I remember going to a party and it's all anyone could talk about. I mean, we all knew she wasn't doing well, but I guess we didn't realize the extent of her fall from grace until it was too late." **DOROTHY ROBINSON**

• "Our 'Kristen, how could you?' cover is blown-up and hanging on the wall next to my desk. Every day I ask myself the same thing." **MEREDITH ENGEL**

• "At the risk of giving this any more ink: Robert Pattinson's



Pop icon Whitney Houston was only 48 years old when she died on Feb. 11. GETTY IMAGES

hair at least deserves to be cheated on in a proper hotel room." **MONICA WEYMOUTH**

• "I can't believe you would vote for Stewart/Pattinson break up when we don't mention 50 Shades. It's bonkers it's not on this list. But maybe it's not because we are all still wondering how such badly written erotica could take off like it did." **DR**

• "I just wanted to say that I think my 2012 approach to the Kardashian family has really worked this year. I vowed at the onset of 2012 to not speak the Kardashian name aloud. And look at how you're not seeing them on quite as many magazine covers in the checkout line. They're not even on this list! It's the power of the cosmic unconscious, people! Yes,

the one that they call Kim is doing whatever she can to keep her flicker of fame alight — hiring Kanye West to pretend like he's into her and now pregnant with his child — but in 2013 if we all agree not to speak the name of

that family, I think we can finally make them go away forever." **PH**

• "I never thought I'd be someone who thinks of themselves as a 'royal fan' but I really dig Kate and William and I'm excited for them." **DR**



Psycho for Psy

"When my mother asked me what K-Pop was, I knew this thing was bigger than all of us. Parents are the best barometer."

Heidi Patalano, on Gangnam Style

Psy GETTY IMAGES

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The Real Middle-earth

With last month's world premiere of Peter Jackson's *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* in New Zealand, a trip to experience Middle-earth is likely on the bucket list for many fans. Below are some of the top New Zealand tourism activities focused on *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*.

RUTH ATHERLEY
life@metronews.ca

Hobbiton

Near Matamata, a picturesque town just two and a half hours from Auckland (New Zealand's largest city and the gateway to Middle-earth), visitors can enjoy a guided tour of the Hobbiton movie set.

Hidden in the magical, spectacularly green, rolling hills of the area is Hobbiton, the film set made famous in *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy.

Along with 37 Hobbit holes, fans can check out the Green Dragon Inn, The Mill and other structures used in the upcoming films. Not only has Hobbiton gained fame as a movie set, it is also a working farm experience, café and conference facility.

It's definitely a must for anyone who wants to truly experience the "Shire" when in New Zealand.



Hobbiton movie set in Matamata. FLICKR: ARBRON



Mountain bike skippers canyon track, Queenstown. FLICKR: TRAILSOURCE.COM

Four-wheel drive safari tour in Queenstown

Any reason to visit Queenstown, on New Zealand's South Island, is a good one, and a four-wheel drive adventure through Middle-earth gives visitors a great reason to go.

The Queenstown area was prominently featured in the filming of *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy and Nomad Safaris offers two different tours designed specifically for fans.

The guides are definitely one of the highlights of the tour — many were extras in the films. They know, and are happy to share, all of the local gossip about what the stars of the movies did while they were filming in the area.

Wellington

Everyone who goes to Wellington falls in love with the fun, foodie and fashion-focused city that sits at the southern tip of the North Island.

Known to many as "Wellywood" because of its flourishing film industry, fans can experience the ultimate Middle-earth full-day tour with Wellington Rover Tours — where fans can follow in the footsteps of Hobbits, and spend the day learning film secrets. Wellington also boasts the Weta Cave, which screens a behind-the-scenes look at Weta and interviews co-founder Peter Jackson, among others, has a mini-museum with some of the characters and features props and displays from *The Lord of the Rings* films.



Wellington. FLICKR: ASGW

Regional highlights



Hamilton Waikato

Hobbits have roamed the hills at Hobbiton movie set, near Matamata, where *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* Trilogies were filmed.



Christchurch Canterbury

The Canterbury region was used for numerous locations for *The Lord of the Rings* Trilogy and the Mount Cook region has been used again for *The Hobbit*.

Aoraki Mount Cook (3,754 metres) is New Zealand's highest mountain and means cloud piercer.



Central Otago

Central Otago, another picturesque filming location and popular with vacationers, is renowned for being the hottest, coldest and driest part of New Zealand. It is also New Zealand's most inland region. RUTH ATHERLEY

See for yourself

Air New Zealand (airnewzealand.ca) has direct non-stop flights from Vancouver to Auckland and offers flights from many other North American cities. For more information about New Zealand, please visit: NewZealand.com.

- Hobbiton movie set tours — hobbitontours.com.





Can you imagine a better setting than this for the big day? HANDOUT

Dreaming of saying your vows under the Caribbean sun?

Destination wedding.
A few things to keep in mind if you're looking for a stress-free ceremony



LOREN
CHRISTIE
lrc@metronews.ca

A growing number of brides and grooms are heading to tropical climes in the hopes of having memorable nuptials.

Before you book your destination wedding, there are a few things to bear in mind.

The costs can vary widely depending on the time and place you get married.

The proximity and easy flight access into Cuba, Dominican Republic and Mexico's Mayan Riviera tend to mean there are better deals to be found in these locales. If your dates are flexible, consid-

er holding off until the April shoulder season and you will fare much better with accommodation rates.

Look into any special regulations. Many of the popular Caribbean destinations require you to be on the island anywhere from two to five days prior to the ceremony.

Typically, you will also need a special marriage license in the local language that could cost several hundred dollars depending on the island, and you may be required to get a blood test. Both future spouses must present proof of citizenship of their resident country.

Hire a local wedding specialist. Bridezilla or not, it can be hard planning a wedding from afar.

A good planner can be your liaison between all the legal bits that need to happen and finding the best and most reliable vendors, from the florist to the photographer to the

caterer. At the very least, look at booking a resort that offers a pre-set wedding package that includes a handful of these elements, such as a justice of the peace, document arrangements and a special location for your ceremony.

Be prepared for bathing suit-clad onlookers. Whether you get married on a resort or at the beach, privacy is something that is hard to guarantee. If you want your ceremony to feel a little more intimate, consider an island like Anguilla, which allows foreigners to get married in local churches.

Consider your guests. If you are hoping loved ones will be coming along to share your big day, the cost of the vacation does matter. Negotiate with your resort or tour operator for a group discount. Also, tell people not to bring gifts, the cost of the trip is enough.

You don't want to be bringing a toaster home on the plane anyway.



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Broccoli Pasta does double duty as a warming dish and a cash saver

Whenever you have too little time and too few ingredients on hand — or when you've been eating too much meat — a great alternative is some Broccoli Pasta.

It's delicious, healthy, inexpensive and easy to prepare. The recipe, in fact, is a cinch, consisting of just a few ingredients — pasta, chicken broth, Parmigiano-Reggiano, olive oil and a large head of the name-sake crucifer.

Another of this recipe's charms is its flexibility. You can swap in vegetable broth

for chicken broth, spaghetti for the angel hair pasta, and any other grated hard cheese for the Parmigiano-Reggiano. Sometimes you can even lose the broccoli in favour of roasted cauliflower or Brussels sprouts.

But what makes the dish so popular is its comfort factor. It can be served soupy, so you can slurp the chicken broth along with the strands of pasta. You can also make sure there's some crusty bread within easy reach, which helps to mop up the broth not captured with a spoon.

This dish is so economical it's almost ecological.

Ingredients

- 1 large head broccoli (about 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 pounds)
- 2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
- Kosher salt
- 1 to 2 tsp red pepper flakes, or to taste
- 1 quart low-sodium chicken stock
- 1/2 lb whole-wheat capellini pasta
- 1 cup freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese

1. Heat oven to 450 F. Position one of the racks in top third of oven.

2. Bring pot of water to a boil.

3. Cut broccoli, including the stems, into 2-inch pieces. Peel any thick stem pieces to remove the thick skin.

4. On rimmed baking sheet, arrange broccoli in single layer. Drizzle with oil then sprinkle with salt to taste and toss well.

Cold Weather Broccoli Pasta



This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Place on top oven rack and roast for 10 minutes, or until broccoli is crisp tender and slightly brown at the edges. Transfer the broccoli to a large skillet, add the pepper flakes and the chicken broth, then bring to a boil over medium-high heat.

5. When water in large pot comes to boil, add a hefty pinch of salt and the pasta. Stir and cook 2 minutes, or until the pasta is limp but not quite cooked through. Drain pasta and transfer it to the broccoli pan. Simmer for 2 minutes, or

until the pasta is al dente. Stir in the Parmigiano-Reggiano and salt to taste. Ladle into shallow soup bowls and serve.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/SARA MOULTON IS THE AUTHOR OF THREE COOKBOOKS, INCLUDING SARA MOULTON'S EVERYDAY FAMILY DINNERS.

Drink of the Week

Winter Wind

This drink contains traditional holiday spices and ingredients that remind recipe creator Nishan Nepulungoda of festive seasons.

"The sweetness of cinnamon mixed with fresh lime citrus creates a balanced taste that has an added hint of spice when topped with the ginger beer," says Nepulungoda, a mixologist at Blowfish Restaurant in Toronto.

- 60 ml (2 oz) gin
- 30 ml (1 oz) fresh lime juice
- 30 ml (1 oz) simple syrup
- Pinch ground cinnamon powder
- Ice cubes
- Ginger beer
- Lime slice, for garnish

Shake all ingredients with ice. Pour into a rocks glass with fresh ice. Top up with ginger beer.



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Lasagna meets Butter Chicken

1. Tandoori marinade: In a bowl, whisk yogurt, lemon juice, tandoori spice blend, fenugreek, salt, pepper and hot pepper flakes until well combined. Add chicken; toss to coat. Cover with plastic wrap; refrigerate for 8 hours.

2. Heat oven to 200 C (400 F). Scrape chicken onto rimmed baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Bake in centre of oven 25 minutes or until cooked through. Remove from oven; let stand 15 minutes. Cut chicken into 5-mm (1/4-inch) cubes. Place in bowl, cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate.

3. Butter chicken sauce: In saucepan, heat olive oil and butter over medium-high heat.

Add cumin seeds; toast, stirring frequently, 2 mins. Add onion, garlic and turmeric; cook, stirring frequently, for about 5 mins. or until onions soften. Add ginger, tandoori spice blend and hot pepper flakes; cook, stirring, for another 2 mins. Stir in water, tomatoes, cream, fenugreek and sugar. Bring to gentle simmer, stirring occasionally. Cook 20 mins. Add cooked chicken cubes; simmer another 15 mins or until sauce thickens. Set aside.

4. Meanwhile, in saucepan, heat olive oil and butter over med-high heat. Add onion and garlic; cook, stirring frequently, for 5 mins. or until onion softens. Add mushrooms and green pepper; cook, stirring, 10 mins.

or until veggies are soft. Add salt, garam masala and black pepper; cook 2 mins. Set aside.

5. To assemble lasagna: Heat oven to 200 C (400 F). Spread one-third of butter chicken sauce over bottom of 13-by-9-inch glass baking dish. Arrange 5 noodles over top. Dollop with ricotta; top with vegetables. Arrange 5 more noodles over top. Spread another one-third sauce all over. Sprinkle with half of

mozzarella. Top with remaining noodles. Spread remaining sauce all over. Sprinkle with remaining mozzarella. Cover loosely with foil.

6. Bake in centre of oven 45 mins.; remove foil. Sprinkle with basil. Return to oven for another 5 mins. or until bubbling and golden on top. Let stand 10 mins. before serving.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ RECIPE COURTESY OF FOOD NETWORK CANADA

Ingredients

Tandoori Marinade

- 250 ml (1 cup) plain yogurt
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) lemon juice
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) tandoori spice blend
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) dried fenugreek
- 5 ml (1 tsp) kosher salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) black pepper
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) hot pepper flakes
- 8 boneless skinless chicken thighs

Butter Chicken Sauce

- 45 ml (3 tbsp) olive oil
- 5 ml (1 tsp) unsalted butter
- 5 ml (1 tsp) cumin seeds
- 250 ml (1 cup) diced red onion
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) minced garlic
- 5 ml (1 tsp) turmeric
- 5 ml (1 tsp) minced ginger root
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) tandoori spice blend
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) hot pepper flakes
- 250 ml (1 cup) water
- 1 can (796 ml/28 oz) crushed tomatoes

- 325 ml (1 1/3 cups) 35 per cent whipping cream
- 22 ml (1 1/2 tbsp) fenugreek, crushed
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) sugar
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) olive oil
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) unsalted butter
- 250 ml (1 cup) diced red onion
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) minced garlic
- 500 ml (2 cups) sliced cremini mushrooms
- 250 ml (1 cup) diced sweet green pepper
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) kosher salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) garam masala
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) black pepper

Lasagna

- 15 oven-ready dry lasagna noodles
- 250 ml (1 cup) ricotta cheese
- 500 ml (2 cups) grated mozzarella cheese
- 4 basil leaves, shredded



This recipe serves 12. COURTESY OF THE FOOD NETWORK

From lovely, lazy holiday to dreary office desktop

Back from your break? Believe it or not, there are ways to tackle this tough transition without tearing your hair out

ISHANI
NATH
Talentegg.ca

Between frolicking in the frost and sleeping in past noon, long weekends and holidays don't leave much time to think about the office.

Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end.

The first day back at work after a holiday can be tough. While you were away, the only paperwork you did was rifling through magazines and trashy novels.

Now that you're back, you're faced with hundreds of emails, new projects and deadlines that are creeping up on you.

Many people return to work and try to go from zero-to-productive all at once, but Robert Half executive Christine Lucy says that trying to get caught up on everything right away is not the solution. For students and new hires, this can present a new challenge. Christine says, "Like anything new, you find ways to deal with it with practice."

Making up for time missed is a delicate balancing act, says Christine. You want to get back into work-mode "without stressing yourself out and losing all the benefits of that vacation."

So how do you get up to speed without getting winded?

Here are some tips for students and new grads who are trying to snap back to reality after the holidays.

Get organized

Whether you're leaving for the Bahamas or simply taking a few days off to lounge around at home, planning ahead will ease your post-vacation work week.

"Being planned and being prepared to return to work can make a big difference," says Christine.

Try to get major projects and anything that is time-sensitive out of the way before you head out.

Resolve to revive that magical machine

Here are four easy ways to clean up your computer in the year ahead:

- **Get rid of useless programs.** The longer you've had your computer, the longer you've been accumulating software — a tiny little program here, a gigantic multi-gigabyte behemoth there — that steals hard drive space and can contribute to slower system performance. So scan through all the programs on your computer and be brazen about uninstalling anything that you never, ever use.

- **Do a thorough scan for viruses and malware.** As our hard drives get larger, the process of scanning for viruses gets longer and more annoying, sometimes slowing down your computer considerably, so it's no wonder that many users just hit cancel when it's time for their regular automated checkup. If virus scanning always seems to get in the way, then change your software's schedule to begin at a more convenient time, maybe right before bed.

- **Backup.** Make 2013 the year you get better about protecting your valuable data. If you're not regularly backing up the files you really don't

want to lose — important documents, digital photos and video, downloaded music and movies — consider yourself lucky that you haven't suffered a catastrophic loss and get to work. Burning files to DVDs is falling out of fashion, but you can still store several gigabytes of data on each disc, so a handful of discs would do the job for many users. External hard drives are increasingly inexpensive and offer an easy way to back up by dragging and dropping files.

- **Get it physically clean.** When's the last time you gave your computer, keyboard and mouse a good scrub? According to Charles Gerba, a leading expert on germs based out of the University of Arizona, what you don't see might gross you out. And if you're not good about washing your hands, they could make you sick. Parainfluenza, E. coli, C. difficile and drug-resistant MRSA are among the things that could be lingering beneath your fingertips. Apple recommends using disinfecting wipes — which do not contain bleach — to clean keyboards, mice and other non-glass surfaces. Then wipe them dry with a soft lint-free cloth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On that first day back in the office, Christine recommends an early start. That way, you'll be able to get to work on projects that need urgent attention and start sorting through your overstuffed inbox — before co-workers start coming around to ask you about your vacation.

Be realistic

You've been gone for a few days, so don't expect to get caught up in a single day. Trying to tackle everything all at once can leave you feeling stressed and overwhelmed, so prioritize what really needs to get done right away.

For instance, rather than starting with your most recent emails and working your way down, sort through

them and deal with the most important ones first. "In reality, not everything has to be done right now," says Christine.

Say "thank you"

While you were enjoying your holiday, someone may have been covering for your job. In order to make a smooth transition back to work, make sure you acknowledge and thank them for their assistance. A simple "thank you" will strengthen your work relationships and make people more likely to help you when it comes time for your next holiday.

TALENTTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.



By separating the things that can wait for a few days, it will relieve some of your first-day-back workload and stress.

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Team Canada teammates Dougie Hamilton, left, Anthony Camara and Malcolm Subban pretend to bobsleigh during practice on Saturday in Ufa, Russia.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Juniors forge identity half a world away

World juniors. Far from home, Canadian team sticking together on and off the ice

Goaltending coach Ron Tugnutt mused aloud during the Canadian junior hockey team's selection camp in Calgary that travelling 13 time zones to pursue a gold medal might not be a disadvantage for the team.

The world junior hockey championship was held in North America for four consecutive years from 2009 to 2012, in Ottawa, Buffalo, Saskatoon and then jointly in Calgary and Edmonton.

The moment the Canadian team stepped off the ice in

Quoted

"Now you're into one-game situations and we all know they are very difficult games, but I do like the place our team is in right now and I like the mindset of the group."

Canadian junior coach Steve Spott

those tournaments, their performance was reflected back to them around the clock via wall-to-wall media coverage.

Tugnutt hoped Ufa, Russia, would afford this team some isolation.

"They won't be seeing as much of themselves on TV," he said then. "We're kind of on our own little island out there. I think this will be good for us."

After concluding the preliminary round 4-0 to finish first in Pool B, some Canadian

players spoke of the unifying effect of travelling so far from home. They've been abroad together since Dec. 15, when Canada departed Calgary for a pre-competition camp and exhibition games in Finland.

"We had a few days in Vierumäki to definitely grow that bond," captain Ryan Nugent-Hopkins said. "It's amazing how much we've come together in this tournament on and off the ice."

Canadian coach Steve Spott

Waiting for their foe

Canada earned a bye to Thursday's semifinal after finishing first in Pool B.

- They await the winner of Wednesday's quarterfinal between the Czech Republic and the U.S.

has observed that his players seem happiest off ice when they're hanging around their hotel together.

"They don't want to leave the hotel," Spott said. "We've had a number of team activities planned, but they enjoy being around each other in the hotel, and that, to me, is a sign of a great hockey club."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Penn State scandal

Governor to file federal lawsuit against NCAA over sanctions

Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett said Tuesday he plans to sue the NCAA in federal court over stiff sanctions imposed against Penn State University in the wake of the Jerry Sandusky child-sexual-abuse scandal.

The Republican governor scheduled a Wednesday news conference on the Penn State campus in State College to announce the antitrust filing in U.S. District Court in Harrisburg, Pa.

The sanctions, which were agreed to by the university in July, included a \$60-million fine that would be used nationally to finance child-abuse-prevention grants. The sanctions also included a four-year bowl-game ban for the university's marquee football program, reduced football scholarships and the forfeiture of 112 wins, but didn't include a suspension of the football program, the so-called death penalty.

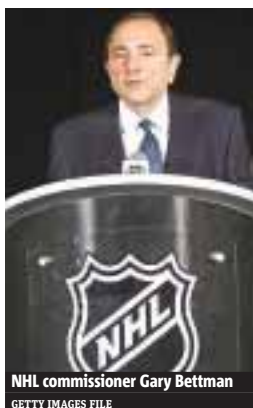
The governor's office announced the news conference late Tuesday afternoon. His spokesman did not respond to repeated calls and emails seeking to confirm a Sports Illustrated story that cited anonymous sources saying a lawsuit was imminent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett
GETTY IMAGES FILE

NHL, union on clock to salvage season



NHL commissioner Gary Bettman
GETTY IMAGES FILE

The NHL delivered a comprehensive counter-proposal to the NHL Players' Association on Tuesday night as the sides pushed to reach an agreement that would save the season.

NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr said the union would review the document during the evening and expected to return to the bargaining table at some point on Wednesday.

Fehr declined to be specific about what was being negotiated.

"It's better to be meeting than not but I'm not saying anything else more about it,"

By the numbers

108

There are signs the 108-day lockout is nearing its end. Players who have spent time in Europe are starting to trickle back to North America, including Bruins forward Tyler Seguin and Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist, who wrote on Twitter that "hopefully I'm coming back for the right reason."

he said.

The talks are being held with an eye on preserving at least a 48-game schedule — the same number that was played following the 1994-95

lockout. An agreement would need to be in place by Jan. 11 for that to happen.

League officials met well into the night Monday after receiving a new offer from the union that Fehr said included movement on key issues.

It came three days after the NHL tabled a new offer that sparked the latest round of talks.

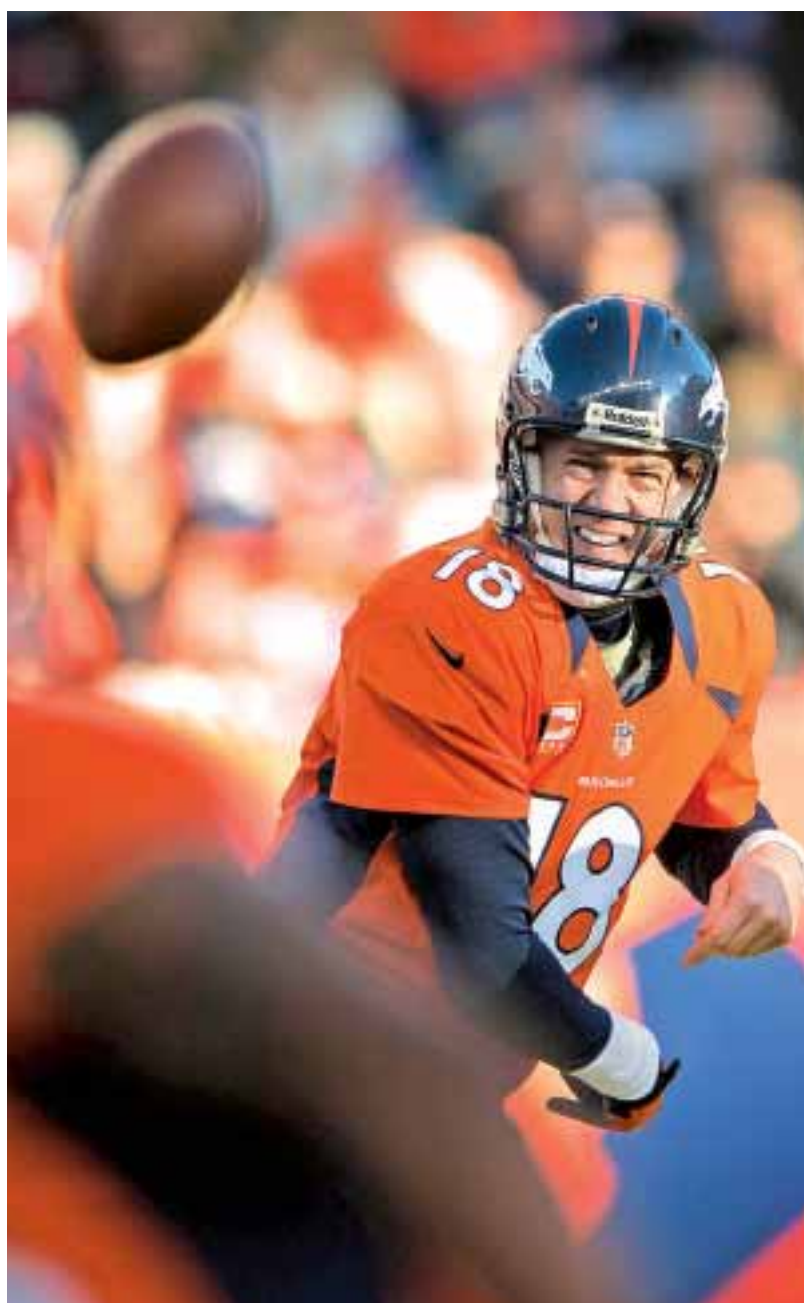
"We covered the range of subjects they covered," said Fehr.

With a push now on to make an agreement, Fehr and Bettman rejoined talks for the first time in more than a month. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Back at the table

The NHL's most recent offer saw it soften demands on new contract rules and included a salary cap of \$60 million for the 2013-14 season — a number the union believes is too low.

- While few details of the NHLPA's new proposal are known, commissioner Gary Bettman indicated that it brought attention to the key issues that still need to be addressed.



While the AFC-leading Denver Broncos and Peyton Manning are planning to stay sharp during their weekend off, eight teams will begin their playoff campaigns on Saturday and Sunday. DUSTIN BRADFORD/GETTY IMAGES

NFL's top dogs hope to buck bye-week jinx

Odds on upset. No. 1 seed Broncos, Falcons hope to stay sharp while wildcards look to build on momentum

The Denver Broncos and Atlanta Falcons, who tied for the league's best record at 13-3, are well aware of one of the NFL's biggest truisms: More often than not, the regular season is for suckers.

Over the last decade, just two of the 13 teams that had the best regular season record — or tied for the best mark — went on to win the Super Bowl: the '02 Buccaneers and the '03 Patriots.

The last eight teams to enter the playoffs with the best record bowed out before they could put their fingerprints on the Lombardi Trophy and revel in a rain of confetti.

Both the Broncos and Falcons are promising to practice like champions this week and not allow rest and relaxation to turn into rust and ruin.

In the last seven seasons, three No. 6 seeds and a No. 4 seed ended up winning it all, giving hope to the likes of the Ravens, Redskins, Bengals and Vikings in this year's playoff pool.

A year ago, the Green Bay Packers rested their regulars in the season finale and they

lost their edge, becoming the first 15-1 team to lose its first playoff game — to a New York Giants team that was 7-7 in mid-December and went on to win it all.

"That's kind of what it was for us when I was in Indy," Broncos wide receiver Brandon Stokley said of the '05 Colts, who went 14-2 but lost to Pittsburgh in the divisional round. "We kind of rested the last week, then we had a bye. It's too much. So, I like just grinding every week, just playing football."

That's exactly what Peyton Manning's new team did, securing the AFC's top seed Sunday with its 11th straight win.

Along with the Falcons, Patriots and 49ers, the Broncos get a break this week, one that can prove a pitfall as much as a profit.

"We've just got to practice like we're playing this week," Denver receiver Eric Decker said.

While the Broncos stormed into the playoffs, the Falcons, who already had the NFC's top seed secured, didn't gain any momentum Sunday, losing to Tampa Bay.

"Before this game was played, we were the No. 1 seed in the playoffs, at the end of the game, nothing has changed," Falcons tight end Tony Gonzalez reasoned. "We're a very good team. We'll just use this as a wake-up call."

Broncos coach John Fox is using the bye week to stay sharp, calling for short, crisp practices on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and a mandatory weightlifting session Saturday, mainly to keep the team "focused."

Nevada oddsmakers have made the Broncos the favourite to win the Super Bowl.

Of course, the Packers were in this position last year. It's not just the NFL where the season's best team usually falters in the playoffs.

In the last 10 seasons, only two teams in each of the other major pro sports leagues parlayed the best regular-season record into a championship, according to STATS, LLC.

Since the first Super Bowl, the team with the best regular-season record has won just 21 of 46 championships, or 46 per cent, which is more than in the NHL (42 per cent), NBA (41 per cent) and MLB (28 per cent), according to STATS, LLC. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Wildcard matchups

A look at the opening round of the NFL playoffs.

- **Saturday AFC:** Cincinnati at Houston; **NFC:** Minnesota at Green Bay.
- **Sunday, AFC:** Indianapolis at Baltimore; **NFC:** Seattle at Washington.

Eagles in the hunt for new coach

Jeffrey Lurie's search for the Philadelphia Eagles' next coach began before he fired Andy Reid and could last until the Super Bowl.

While the Eagles were struggling toward a 4-12 finish, Lurie "meticulously and in great detail" researched potential successors to replace a coach that won more games than any other in franchise history.

Reid, however, didn't win a Super Bowl and the team still is seeking its first NFL title since 1960. Lurie considers the Vince Lombardi Trophy his "obsession."

So, the pressure's on to find a coach who can deliver that elusive championship.

The Eagles already have



Philadelphia already has a list of candidates to replace former coach Andy Reid. ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

lined up interviews with three assistant coaches on the Atlanta Falcons: Defensive co-ordinator Mike Nolan, offensive co-ordinator Dirk Koetter and special teams coach Keith Armstrong. The Falcons (13-3) are the No. 1 seed in the NFC play-

offs and have a bye this week.

Other NFL assistants that are likely on Lurie's "very defined list" include Denver's Mike McCoy, San Francisco's Greg Roman and Vic Fangio, Cincinnati's Jay Gruden and Mike Zimmer, Seattle's Gus Bradley, Green Bay's Ben McDoo, and Arizona's Ray Horton.

Bruce Arians, who was 9-3 as interim coach with Indianapolis, is another candidate.

Oregon's Chip Kelly may be the most sought-after coach from the college ranks, and he's said to be atop Philadelphia's list.

Fans hoping the Eagles make a big splash and hire a high-profile coach like Bill Cowher or Jon Gruden are probably going to be dis-

Quoted

"The important thing is to find the right coach, not to make the fastest decision."

Eagles owner Jeffrey Lurie talks about his team's search for a new coach.

appointed. Lurie downplayed "famous" names and pointed to Reid as an example of an unknown coach who had tremendous success after getting his first chance.

When Lurie hired Reid in 1999, he was never a co-ordinator. Reid coached quarterbacks and offensive linemen in Green Bay under Mike Holmgren. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Chicago Shakeup

Bears bid farewell to Lovie Smith

Chicago Bears general manager Phil Emery says too many playoff misses and the inability to develop a productive offence led to coach Lovie Smith's firing.

Missing the playoffs for the fifth time in six years and the inability to fix the offence were simply too much to overlook, so they cut ties with their coach after a nine-year run that included a Super Bowl appearance.

Emery said Tuesday he'll be interviewing potential replacements over the next two weeks and would like to have one in place by later this month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A shuffle in Buffalo

Bills promote Russ Brandon to team president

Buffalo Bills CEO Russ Brandon added the title of team president Tuesday, and said Buddy Nix will remain the club's general manager.

The news came a day after the Bills fired coach Chan Gailey. Brandon's promotion gives him operational control of the franchise, and he will report directly to owner Ralph Wilson, who previously held the president's title.

The Bills are coming off their second consecutive 6-10 season and extended the NFL's longest playoff drought to 13 years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Revving up some auto nostalgia

Danny Koker, the restomodding maestro on Pawn Stars' speed dial, has rewired the engine on a spinoff series. On History's Counting Cars (premieres tonight 9 p.m. ET/PT), The Count hunts down classic wheels, fixes 'em up and then either flips them or adds the finished beauties to his personal collection. We sought Koker's counsel on some of the sweetest rides to grace the small and big screen.

MIKE DOJC
drive@metronews.ca



1968 Mustang GT 390 Fastback, Bullitt

You can't picture this car without Steve McQueen behind the wheel. The image of the muted highland green muscle car — with deleted emblems and a blacked out tail panel — burning up the hilly streets of San Francisco in hot pursuit of a jet black Dodge Charger has seared itself into the consciousness of cinephiles and auto enthusiasts alike.

Restoration challenge:

Rust is a common issue and you'll likely have to start with a real beater. "Everybody loves to hot rod old mustangs. Lots of them have been crashed on drag strips and roadrace courses, or somebody's teenage kid has wrapped one around a tree. Good examples are getting hard to find, so you're having to settle," explains Koker, who puts \$22,000 into a real hunk of junk and transforms it into a beautiful Bullitt tribute on the debut episode.

Price:

\$50 to 60k depending on options.



1969 Dodge Charger, Dukes of Hazzard

The General Lee didn't just give Boss Hogg's flunkies the slip, Chrysler's aerodynamic wild child was designed to lap the competition. Of course, no car could land those ridiculous frame-buckling jumps and drive away unscathed. Nearly 300 Chargers were wrecked over the run of the television series from 1979-1985. "These were really awesome cars with huge engines stuffed into them. You could get a 440 with a six pack (six carburetors), or you could get a hemi. The car was a drag race car right off the showroom floor," says Koker.

Restoration Challenge:

While the parts are out there for old Mopars, they didn't produce as many as other muscle cars from the same period, so they're much more expensive.

Price:

You can build one for \$30 to 40k.



1961 Ferrari 250 GT California Spyder, Ferris Bueller's Day Off

Car crazed teens drooled on their popcorn over this candy red V12 five-speed aluminum-bodied dream machine when Matthew Broderick took this "so choice" beauty for a spin. "Ironically, the one in the movie was a replica," explains Koker. "(They used) a fiberglass-bodied car on a late model Mustang chassis with a small block Ford 302 motor. To use a real '61 Spyder would've been insane."

Restoration Challenge:

Finding original parts would be almost impossible. But if you have deep pockets, you could go to Italy and have Ferrari re-manufacture whatever you need.

Price:

In 2008, a '61 once owned by the late James Coburn sold for \$10.9 million. The actual car from the film sold for a mere fraction of that in 2010, fetching \$122,000 in a Bonhams auction, practically double the London auction house's estimate of \$45 to 65k.



1958 Plymouth Fury, Christine

The demonic two-door hardtop was conceived by Chrysler, but made infamous by horror masters Stephen King and John Carpenter, first in print and subsequently on the big screen. The 1983 film turned this proto-muscle car into an icon. "I love that car because it was an oddball, it was not a car that people sought out to collect and restore. I thought it was really cool that that car was selected to be used and that the version in the movie was restored to 100 per cent original condition," says Koker.

Restoration Challenge:

To take it back to the nuts and bolts original, all your parts have to be the real deal. "Everything you do to the interior has to be accurate, the way you detail the engine compartment has to be accurate, and all those things cost extra money," adds Koker.

Price:

You could build one for \$50 to 60k.

Q & A. Danny The Count Koker weighs in

When Rick and the gang at Pawn Stars need advice on anything with wheels and an engine, they call Danny The Count Koker of Las Vegas' Count Kustoms. On Counting Cars, his spinoff series on History, Koker trolls the streets of Nevada for sweet rides to fix up and then flip, but if he grows too attached they find their way into his expansive personal collection.



You have any tips for first time restorers looking for a project?

Don't get in over your head and pick something that you personally love because you're going to get frustrated and want to throw in the towel somewhere along the line. That's why you gotta pick something that you connect with so you'll stick with the project and see it through to the end. If it's a first time project, pick something simple. Go with an old Mustang, an old Camaro, a '55 Chevy, or something like that where the parts are available and it is not rocket science as far as building it and putting it together.

You knock on doors, stop cars at lights and scout parking lots when you're cruising for cars. Do you think you get better deals looking for cars that don't have for sale signs on them yet?

I believe so. That is my philosophy. It's something that I've been doing for years. In my opinion, if a car has a for sale sign on it, you're already too late. Whoever is selling it has already thought about it, done their research and they know what they want for it. It's probably going to be a little bit tougher to work a deal with somebody like that.

What's your success rate using your bold tactics?

Lots of times when we knock on a door or pull somebody over, or find something in a parking lot, sure I get, "No". It's rare to find somebody to say, "OK, I'll sell you my car." I get the no all the time. But on the rare occasion, you get someone in the right frame of mind and mood. They really haven't given it too much thought and maybe they need a little money right now, and you might be able to work a better deal.

MIKE DOJC

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

You have been a bit too generous for your own good of late and, not surprisingly, someone has taken advantage of the situation. Now you must take back what was taken from you, plus a little extra for your trouble.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

If there is something new you would like to do, something extravagant and exciting, you must stop dreaming about it and get on with it. The Sun in Capricorn urges you to get busy right now — later is too late.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

What happens over the next two or three days will bring the kind of changes that even you feel happy about. You should have realized by now that not all change is bad. Some change is exciting and even inspiring.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You are embarking on one of the best times for one-to-one relationships, both personal and professional. Others will go out of their way to help you over the next 24 hours. Go out of your way to enjoy it.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Focus on quality work today. You may be tempted to take on more duties and responsibilities but that will inevitably lead to a loss of value. The fewer things you do, the better you will do them.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

This may be a time of great activity but don't overdo it. Set your sights high today but don't aim for too many things all at the same time. No matter how fit you feel you will burn yourself out.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You will have to make decisions for other people today. It may worry you that their welfare is in your hands but fate has put you in this position for a reason, so be confident you will make a success of it.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You will face a number of challenges over the next few days and you cannot run away from them. That's good. Your life is in a bit of a rut at the moment and you need something to get you out of it.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

If someone asks you to take on more work today you must be strong-minded enough to say no. Whatever you might think you owe other people, you owe more to yourself — and nothing matters more than your health.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

There is nothing you cannot achieve if you want it enough. Rarely have the omens been this good, so stop worrying about what the neighbors might think and start living the kind of life you dream of.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You may be tempted to start something new today but the planets indicate it would be wiser, and easier, to focus your energies on finishing what you have already started. Attitude is everything. Think of it as fun.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

The planets warn you have only a limited grasp of what is going on at the moment and what others tell you today is needed to complete the picture. Thank them for pointing out what you have missed.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword

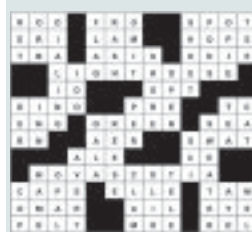
Across

1. Light-feather link (2 words)
4. College major
8. Captain's journal
11. Lose one's cool
13. Operatic solo
14. "Cold Mountain" heroine
15. The Munsters' bat
16. Auction word
17. Term of respect
18. Defense mechanism
20. Not now
22. Happy Days hangout
23. Chest muscle, for short
24. Soup server
27. Frontier figure
31. Disney deer
32. -- standstill (2 words)
33. Wide shoe width
34. Be lenient with
37. Aroma
39. Lay eyes on
40. Exclude
41. Book contents
44. Newspaper employee
48. Slippery fish
49. Variety
52. Scotch partner
53. Before, of yore
54. Sign on a door
55. Nudge
56. Fish eggs
57. Snoopy
58. Hospital units (abbr.)

Down

1. Extremely dry
2. Stuffing herb
3. Before long
4. Sends a letter
5. Gallery display
6. Even score
7. Small village
8. Bringing up the rear

Dec. 21's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers
metronews.ca/
answers.



Sudoku

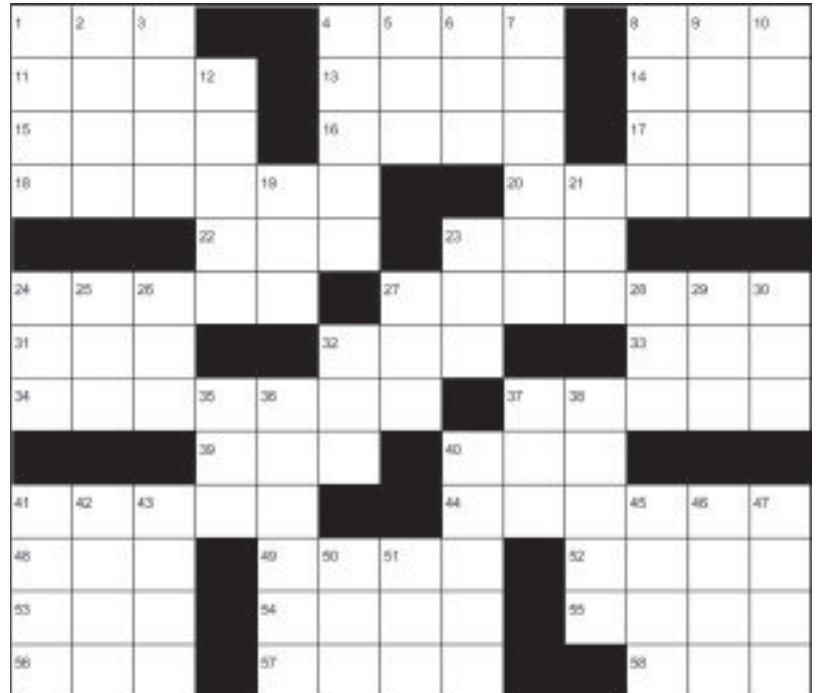
How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Dec. 21's Sudoku

7	5	8	9	1	2	2	4	6
9	6	3	4	7	2	8	5	1
2	4	1	5	8	6	3	7	9
1	7	4	6	3	9	5	8	2
5	8	2	1	4	7	9	6	3
3	9	6	2	5	8	4	1	7
4	1	9	7	2	5	6	3	8
6	3	5	8	9	1	7	2	4
8	2	7	3	6	4	1	9	5

BY BETTY MARTIN



9. Cartoon dog
10. Actress Teri of "Tootsie"
12. Courtroom drama
19. Pub offering
21. Pretend
23. Soup vegetable
24. Flower garland
25. Abby's twin sister
26. Family man
27. Sault — Marie
28. Jeans brand

29. Poetic time of day
30. Soak as flax
32. Epoch
35. Benefit
36. Subside
37. Down in the dumps
38. Crunchy
40. Veronica's friend
41. Look closely
42. Flying (prefix)
43. High spirits

45. Ripped
46. Unpleasant smell
47. X-ray dosages
50. Losing tic-tac-toe row
51. Sue Grafton novel: -- for Ricochet (letter and word)

Today

-10°/-15°

Variable

Thursday

-4°/-13°

Sunny

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